

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) Artificial intervertebral ~~disc~~, disc comprising:
a nucleus of flexible material with the shape of a flattened ~~body, with body~~
having a lower surface, and an upper side surface, and connected
by a lateral surface connecting the lower and upper surfaces to one
another, and
at least one around which at least substantially radially oriented windings
of a traction-resistant fibre have been applied wound around the
lower, upper and lateral surfaces, the fibre establishing
substantially radially oriented windings on the lower and upper
surfaces of the flattened body.
2. (currently amended) Intervertebral disc according to claim 1, wherein the
lower and the upper ~~side surfaces~~ surfaces are of a rounded shape, ~~preferably of a circular or~~
~~ellipsoid shape.~~
3. (previously presented) Intervertebral disc according to claim 1, wherein the
windings substantially run along geodetic lines across the surface of the nucleus.
4. (currently amended) Intervertebral disc according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~
~~fibres have~~ at least one traction-resistant fibre has a tensile strength of at least 1 GPa
and a modulus of at least 10 GPa.
5. (currently amended) Intervertebral disc according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~
~~fibres consist~~ at least one traction-resistant fibre consists of polyethylene.
6. (currently amended) Intervertebral disc according to claim 1, comprising at
least one laterally wound ~~wherein are also present windings of a traction-resistant fibre~~

which ~~run~~ is wound completely ~~across~~ around only the lateral surface of the flattened body.

7. (currently amended) Intervertebral disc according to claim 1, further comprising a fabric positioned wherein between the nucleus and ~~the~~ at least one traction-resistant fibre running ~~fibres a fabric is present~~ along at least the lateral surface and at least ~~a part~~ parts of the lower side and ~~a part of the~~ upper side surfaces.

8. (original) Intervertebral disc according to claim 7, wherein the fabric consists of traction-resistant fibres.

9. (currently amended) Intervertebral disc according to claim 8, wherein the traction-resistant fibres of the fabric have a tensile strength of at least 1 GPa and a modulus of at least 10 GPa.

10. (new) Intervertebral disc according to claim 1, wherein the lower and the upper surfaces are of a circular shape.

11. (new) Intervertebral disc according to claim 1, wherein the lower and the upper surfaces are of an ellipsoid shape.

12. (new) Intervertebral disc according to claim 1, wherein at least one traction-resistant fibre has a length which is at least ten times a circumference of the nucleus.

13. (new) Intervertebral disc according to claim 6, wherein at least one laterally wound traction-resistant fibre has a length which is at least ten times a circumference of the nucleus.

14. (new) Intervertebral disc according to claim 1, comprising several traction-resistant fibres, each being of a length sufficient to be wound around the lower, upper and lateral surfaces, the fibre establishing substantially radially oriented windings on the lower and upper surfaces of the flattened body.

15. (new) Intervertebral disc according to claim 6, comprising several laterally wound traction-resistant fibres, each being of a length sufficient to be wound completely around only the lateral surface of the flattened body.

16. (new) An artificial intervertebral disc comprising:

a nucleus of flexible material with the shape of a flattened body having a lower surface, an upper surface, and a lateral surface defining a circumference of the flattened body and joining the lower and upper surfaces to one another; and

at least one traction-resistant fibre having a length which is at least ten times the circumference of the flattened body, the fibre being wound around the lower, upper and lateral surfaces of the flattened body and establishing substantially radially oriented windings on the lower and upper surfaces thereof.

17. (new) The intervertebral disc as in claim 16, further comprising at least one lateral traction-resistant fibre having a length which is at least ten times the circumference of the flattened body and being wound around only the lateral surface thereof.

18. (new) The intervertebral disc as in claim 17, wherein each traction-resistant fibre has a tensile strength of at least 1 GPa and a modulus of at least 10 GPa.